

VISION ZERO TRAFFIC SAFETY COURSE KIT

Kit contains:

- everything you need to set up a basic safety course
- instructions
- prizes to get you started



Thanks for being a Vision Zero partner!

**Before enjoying and playing with the traffic safety kits,
take a look at these instructions.**

Questions about this kit?

Contact Allison Schwartz at
allison.schwartz@seattle.gov or (206) 386-4654

Learn more about Vision Zero at
www.seattle.gov/visionzero.



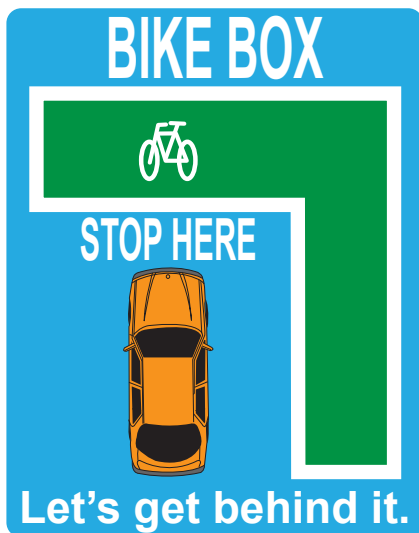
WHY DID WE PUT TOGETHER THESE KITS?

The purpose of these kits is for community members to be able to teach each other how to get around safely, whether walking, driving, or biking. The course works for people of all ages – kids and adults. We all have a role to play in reaching Seattle’s Vision Zero goal of ending traffic deaths and serious injuries on our streets by 2030.

For some, the course will be a refresher. For others, it will be totally new information. Either way, keep it simple, fun, and enjoyable!

THROUGH THE COURSE, WE WANT TO COMMUNICATE A FEW KEY THINGS:

There are some new things on our streets, like green bike lanes and bike boxes. What are they and why are we building them?



What is a bike box?

It’s a painted green space on the road with a white bicycle symbol inside. Some bike boxes have a green bike lane approaching the box.

They improve safety and visibility for people biking, and for people driving.

How do you use it?

- People biking can go into the box when the light is red (they pull up ahead of cars)
- Drivers have to stop behind the bike box – this helps them see people on bikes better, and it gives the person biking a little bit of a head start and momentum

What are protected bike lanes?

Protected bike lanes are a simple concept, really: they’re like sidewalks for bikes. They have different forms, but all share common elements — they provide space that is used for bicycles and are separated from motor vehicle travel lanes, parking lanes, and sidewalks.



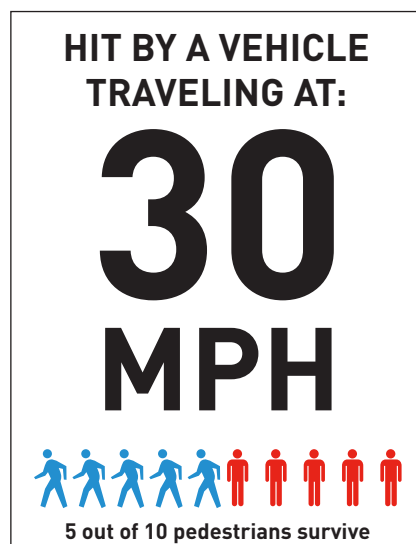
Then there are things that have been around for a while, like traffic circles. But some people may need a reminder on how they work and why we build them.

What are traffic circles?

Traffic circles slow people down and improve safety on neighborhood streets. People driving and biking should NOT take the short-cut. Go around the long way so you can go slow and see others around you.



Advice: Speed matters (it can increase the frequency and severity of crashes – see graphic below), so slow down.



Another reminder (that many people don't realize): **Did you know every intersection is a crosswalk?**

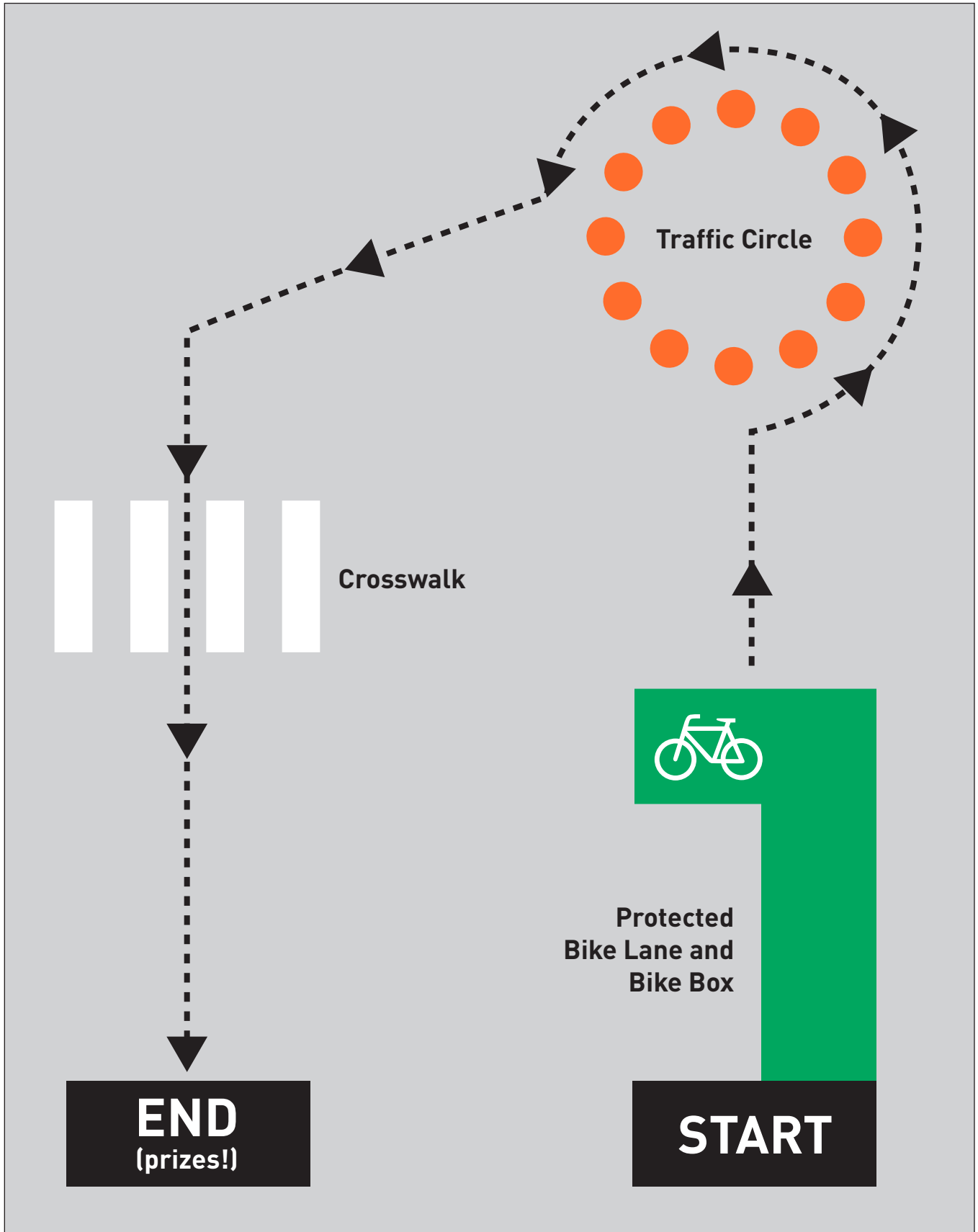
- People driving: every intersection is a crosswalk, whether marked or unmarked
- People walking: look left, right, left, and over your shoulder – you have the right of way, but it's always best to make eye contact with driver
- Whether you're walking or driving, pay attention (don't be distracted)



What you need:

- Green chalk for bike lane and box (if you are doing the activity inside, you can use green paper, taped to the floor)
- Cones for traffic circle
- White chalk (or, if you are doing the activity inside, white duct tape) for crosswalk
- Tape or chalk for directional arrows to show people the flow of the course
- 2-3 people to run the course
- Prizes! We've included some to get you started – keychain reflectors, bike lights, keychain lights, bookmarks, capes, buttons, and stickers.

General course layout





How to run the course

1. The person running the course should ask participants to act like someone driving, biking, or walking. We want to show people the rules of the road from various perspectives.
2. As they pull into the bike lane and bike box, ask participants what rules they should be following.
3. If they don't know, that's okay. Explain what a protected bike lane and a bike box is, and why the city is building them.
4. As you approach the traffic circle, ask people what it is. Have they ever tried to take a shortcut around it while driving? Talk to people about why speed matters.
5. Another volunteer should be staged at the crosswalk, and act like they are crossing.

Tip: This is a great time to use the mini crossing and stop signs and have kids hold them while crossing the street

6. During the crosswalk, make sure to remind participants that every intersection is a crosswalk, whether marked or unmarked.
7. Quiz time! At the end of the course, ask participants what they have learned, then give them a prize.